

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An upholstery tack strip comprising a metal ribbon and a thermoplastic sleeve covering at least a portion of said ribbon, wherein said sleeve includes a lengthwise removed section so as to expose a corresponding lengthwise surface of the metal ribbon, and wherein said metal ribbon integrally includes nail sections which protrude outwardly from said tack strip.
2. The upholstery tack strip as in claim 1, wherein said ribbon includes at least one knurled edge.
3. The upholstery tack strip as in claim 2, wherein each lateral edge of said ribbon is a knurled edge.
4. The upholstery tack strip as in claim 1, wherein said nail sections protrude outwardly through said removed section of said sleeve.
5. The upholstery tack strip as in claim 4, wherein said nail sections are generally triangularly shaped.
6. The upholstery tack strip as in claim 1, wherein said sleeve is formed of a thermoplastic material.
7. The upholstery tack strip as in claim 6, wherein the thermoplastic material is selected from the group consisting of polyolefins, nylons, polyesters, and polyvinyl chlorides.

8. The upholstery tack strip as in claim 1, further comprising an adhesive for adhering said sleeve to said metal ribbon.

9. The upholstery tack strip as in claim 1, wherein said sleeve includes a pair of lengthwise removed sections so as to expose opposed lengthwise surface regions of said metal ribbon and to establish generally cross-sectionally U-shaped edge protectors covering lateral edges of said metal ribbon.

10. An upholstery tack strip comprising a metal ribbon having opposed lateral knurled edges, and a pair of thermoplastic generally cross-sectionally U-shaped edge protectors covering said knurled edges of said metal ribbon, wherein said metal ribbon integrally includes nail sections which protrude outwardly from said tack strip.

11. The upholstery tack strip as in claim 10, wherein said edge protectors are integrally joined to one another along an upper surface of said ribbon, and wherein an elongate channel is defined by said edge protectors along a lower surface of said ribbon, said nail sections protruding outwardly from said ribbon within said defined channel.

12. A method of making an upholstery tack strip comprising the steps of:

- (i) extruding a thermoplastic sleeve over a length of metal ribbon stock;
- (ii) removing a lengthwise section of the thermoplastic sleeve to expose a corresponding lengthwise surface region of the metal ribbon stock; and

- (iii) forming nail sections from said exposed corresponding surface regions of the metal ribbon stock which protrude outwardly therefrom.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein step (ii) is practiced so as to remove a pair of lengthwise sections of the thermoplastic sleeve so as to expose upper and lower surface regions of the metal ribbon stock.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein step (iii) is practiced so as to form generally triangularly shaped nail sections which extend outwardly from said bottom surface region of the metal ribbon stock.

15. The method of claim 12, wherein said sleeve is formed of a thermoplastic material selected from the group consisting of polyolefins, nylons, polyesters, and polyvinyl chlorides.

16. The method of claim 12, wherein step (ii) is practiced so as to remove a strip of thermoplastic material so as to expose a lower surface of said metal ribbon stock.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein step (iii) is practiced so as to form nail sections which extend outwardly from said lower surface of said metal ribbon stock.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein step (i) is practiced by passing the metal ribbon stock through a cross-head die, and coating molten thermoplastic material onto the metal ribbon stock in the die.

19. The method of claim 12, wherein step (i) is practiced by passing the metal ribbon stock through a cross-head die, and coating molten thermoplastic material onto the metal ribbon stock in the die.

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising, prior to step (i), the step of (i-1) roughening at least one edge of metal ribbon stock.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein step (i-1) comprises roughening both edges of the metal ribbon stock.

22. The method of claim 1, further comprising prior to step (i), the step of (i-1) passing the metal ribbon stock through a surface-roughening tool so as to roughen a surface thereof.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein step of (i-1) includes passing the metal ribbon stock through a surface-roughening tool so as to knurl at least one edge of the metal ribbon stock.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein each opposed edge of the metal ribbon stock is knurled by the practice of step of (i-1).

25. The method of claim 24, comprising, prior to step (i), the step of applying an adhesive to the metal ribbon.